

From: Gervais, Gregory
Sent: Friday, March 07, 2014 4:08 AM
To: Kelly Wright; Jill Grant; susanh@ida.net; dreisman@cinci.rr.com
Cc: Fonseca, Silvina; Fiedler, Linda; Adam, Michael; Rochlin, Kevin
Subject: FMC Independent Review - Draft Project Plan and Scheduling Next Meeting
Attachments: 20140307_Preliminary Plan for P4 Technology Review.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Categories: Lepic 2/22 to 3/22

Dear Kelly, Jill, Susan and David:

Thank you for participating in our introductory call last week concerning the elemental phosphorus excavation and treatment technology assessment for the FMC Operable Unit of the Eastern Michaud Flats Superfund Site ('the independent review'). As we discussed, the Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation (OSRTI) in EPA headquarters has been tasked with the lead for managing and coordinating Phase 1 of the independent review. As described in the July 10, 2012 letter to Chairman Small from EPA Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe and its attachment, there will be one or two phases to the project. The current effort is the technology review (Phase 1). Phase 2 ('Further Evaluation of Promising Technologies') may be undertaken, as indicated in the attachment to the Perciasepe letter: "... if EPA, with input from the Tribes, determines that the results of Phase 1 merit additional evaluation." The EPA will consider the product of the independent review when selecting the final remedy for the FMC Operable Unit.

On the call we introduced OSRTI staff who will be involved in coordinating the project:

- Greg Gervais, Chief, Technology Assessment Branch;
- Silvina Fonseca, Remedy Team Leader;
- Linda Fiedler, Environmental Engineer; and
- Mike Adam, Project Officer

As discussed, I will direct the effort and be the primary EPA contact for Shoshone-Bannock Tribal representatives who will be involved in this project. I can be reached at 703-603-0690, and gervais.gregory@epa.gov.

We also discussed that the EPA and the Tribes previously agreed the review will be accomplished by Argonne National Laboratory under an OSRTI Interagency Agreement managed by Mike Adam. To further consolidate coordination of the review, the management of the EPA Cooperative Agreement with the Tribes to support funding for the Tribes' technical representative for the independent review will be transferred from EPA Region 10 to OSRTI.

As we discussed on our call, in preparation for the technology review effort the EPA has developed a preliminary Project Plan for Phase 1 containing drafts of the following: a schedule, roles and responsibilities, an IAG work order to be completed by the EPA with the Tribes' input, and a placeholder for applicable technical information to be provided to Argonne with the final work order. This preliminary plan is attached for your review. We would like to schedule an in person meeting to discuss the Project Plan and tribal feedback. Because of the limited availability of OSRTI staff, we have narrowed down the possible meeting date to either March 24th or 25th, and we suggest one of two possible central locations: Chicago or Salt Lake City. If travel is problematic, I would propose that in the interest of keeping the project moving, we meet again by phone that week instead of in person. Please let me know by next week if possible what you think of the suggested meeting logistics and timeline.

I look forward to continued progress and coordination on this effort. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Greg Gervais, P.E., Chief
Technology Assessment Branch
Technology Information and Field Services Division Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation

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**Preliminary Project Plan for
Independent Review of Elemental Phosphorus Remediation
Phase 1: Technology Review
(Draft 3/7/14)**

1. **Purpose of Study:** To frame and conduct “an independent review of excavation and treatment technologies for soil contaminated with elemental phosphorus at the FMC Operable Unit. The results of this unique effort will ultimately supplement the extensive evaluation of treatment technologies reflected in the administrative record for the interim record of decision amendment for the FMC Operable Unit.”¹ This project plan is intended to organize and frame the technology review (Phase 1) of the independent review.
2. **Draft Project Schedule**
 - January 2014 (Month 1): EPA identifies Agency project participants and begins project planning. [Completed]
 - February 2014 (Month 2):
 - EPA drafts *Project Plan, Roles and Responsibilities*, and *Work Order* for Interagency Agreement (IAG) [Completed]
 - EPA and Tribes conduct conference call to introduce project participants, summarize EPA project roles, and discuss next steps. [Completed 2/26/14]
 - March 2014 (Month 3):
 - EPA provides Tribes with drafts of *Project Plan, Roles and Responsibilities*, and *IAG Work Order* for review [Completed 3/7/14]
 - EPA, Tribes, and Argonne conduct meeting to discuss comments on Draft *Project Plan, Roles and Responsibilities*, and *IAG Work Order* [Proposed for 3/24/14 or 3/25/14]
 - EPA completes transfer of management of Cooperative Agreement (CAG) to OSRTI
 - April 2014 (Month 4):
 - Tribes provide any written comments on documents and applicable technical information for Expert Review Team (“Team”) consideration (by 2 weeks after meeting)
 - EPA considers comments on *Project Plan, Roles and Responsibilities*, and *Work Order* and provides revised documents to Tribe (by 2 weeks after receiving comments)
 - May 2014 (Month 5):
 - EPA and Tribes have conference call to discuss any additional comments (by 2 weeks after sending revised documents)
 - EPA finalizes documents, and provides revised *IAG Work Order* and applicable information to Argonne (by 2 weeks after conference call)
 - June 2014 (Month 6):
 - Argonne begins effort; forms Expert Review Team
 - Argonne, Expert Review Team, EPA and Tribe conduct technical site visit [Date TBD]
 - July-October 2014 (Months 7-10)
 - Argonne and Expert Review Team conduct review independently
 - Argonne delivers *Draft Report*

¹USEPA. Bob Perciasepe Letter to Chairman Nathan Small, July 10, 2012.

- Argonne gives *Presentation* summarizing report (e.g., webinar)
- November- December 2014 (Months 11-12)
 - EPA and Tribes review *Draft Report* and each transmit any *Comments on Draft Report* to Argonne (6 weeks after receiving report)
- January- February 2015 (Months 13-14):
 - Argonne prepares and issues final *Report* and *Response to Comments* [8 weeks after receiving comments]

3. Project Plan Attachments

- ***Attachment 1: Roles and Responsibilities:*** Lists project participants and their roles and responsibilities for the duration of the project
- ***Attachment 2: IAG Work Order:*** Formal document that describes scope of work to be undertaken by Argonne; based on original study framework²
- ***Attachment 3: List of Applicable Technical Information:*** List of available reference material and Internet links of potential use to Team

4. IAG Deliverables

- ***Draft Technology Review of Excavation and Treatment Technologies for Soil Contaminated with Elemental Phosphorus at the FMC Operable Unit ("Draft Report"):*** Draft Report prepared by Argonne under the IAG with EPA and in accordance with the *IAG Work Order*
- ***PowerPoint Presentation of Draft Report:*** Summary of draft report presented by Argonne to project participants
- ***Final Technology Review of Excavation and Treatment Technologies for Soil Contaminated with Elemental Phosphorus at the FMC Operable Unit ("Final Report"):*** Final Report prepared by Argonne under the IAG with EPA and in accordance with the *IAG Work Order*
- ***Response to Comments on Draft Report:*** Formal response to all comments submitted on *Draft Report*

² Bob Perciasepe's July 10, 2012 Letter Attachment entitled "EPA's Draft Proposal to Commission an Independent Review of Excavation/Treatment Technologies for the FMC Operable Unit of the Eastern Michaud Superfund Site."

Attachment 1
Roles and Responsibilities
(Draft 3/7/14)

1) EPA/OSRTI

- a) Serve as Project Officer for Interagency Agreement (IAG) with Argonne National Laboratory and Cooperative Agreement with Shoshone-Bannock (Michael Adam, TIFSD)
- b) Coordinate overall project oversight (Silvina Fonseca (ARD), Greg Gervais (TIFSD))
 - Ensure adherence to schedule/budget
 - Coordinate conference calls and meetings
 - Communicate with applicable Tribal representatives on any issues related to Independent Review (Gervais)
- c) Lead project planning and report review (Linda Fiedler, TIFSD)
 - Prepare draft/final project planning documents
 - Provide any additional technical information to Argonne
 - Coordinate review of draft Report and Response to Comments

2) EPA/Region 10

- a) Provide site information and other support to EPA Headquarters staff and technical lead, as needed (e.g., site documents) (Kevin Rochlin)
- b) Communicate with Shoshone-Bannock Tribes on issues unrelated to Independent Review (Beth Sheldrake and Rochlin)
- c) Coordinate site visit logistics (Rochlin)

3) Argonne National Laboratory

- a) Facilitate meetings
- b) Select Independent Expert Review Team members
- c) Manage Team and conduct Technology Review
- d) Produce deliverables
- e) Report progress to Project Officer as required by IAG

4) Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

- a) Select/employ technical representative(s) for project (David Reisman) [completed]
- b) Receive technical support from technical representative
- c) Comment on draft planning documents and draft reports
- d) Provide any additional technical information for Expert Review Team members

5) FMC (RP)

- a) Receives copy of final documents

ARD-Assessment and Remediation Division
 TIFSD-Technology Information and Field Services Division
 IAG-Interagency Agreement
 RP- Responsible Party

Attachment 2
****DRAFT** IAG Work Order**
(Draft 3/7/14)

Background: In September 2012, the EPA issued an [Interim Record of Decision Amendment](#) for the FMC Operable Unit at the Eastern Michaud Flats Superfund site in Pocatello, Idaho. In the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility study, a review of technologies that could be implemented to address the elemental phosphorous in soil (the principal threat waste) was conducted. Based on that review and using CERCLA's nine criteria, EPA determined that capping was the preferred approach. However, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, a major stakeholder, favor the permanent removal of and/or treatment of contaminants. The Tribes have expressed concerns regarding the previous review conducted on potential treatment technologies. To address the Tribes' concerns, EPA has agreed to commission an Independent Review of excavation and treatment technologies (ETT) for soils contaminated with elemental phosphorous to further inform the assessment of potential ETT.

Purpose: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is committed to working closely with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes (Tribes) in framing and conducting this Independent Review of ETT for soil contaminated with elemental phosphorous. The EPA and the Tribes agree that such a review should be conducted by an independent, objective entity capable of assembling world-class expertise on the subject matter. The EPA believes, and the Tribes concur, that the Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) offers these attributes. The results of this unique effort will ultimately supplement the extensive evaluation of treatment technologies and will be added to the record for the final remedy decision related to the FMC Operable Unit.

The Review: The Independent Review of ETT will be conducted in one or possibly two phases. Phase 1 is the subject of this Work Order and will involve profiling possible ETT relative to the FMC OU. Phase 2 of this effort may be undertaken if the EPA, with input from the Tribes, determines that the results of Phase 1 merit additional evaluation. (Note: The scope of Phase 2 has not yet been developed, however, it may include a preliminary design analysis, and identification of additional studies or evaluations related to implementability, effectiveness, costs, health and safety or other concerns. Funding for Phase 2 has not been secured by EPA, and conducting Phase 2, if needed, will be dependent on available resources. Phase 2 is not included within this current tasking.)

The scope of Phase 1 will include, at a minimum, the following:

- Establishment of an Expert Review Team and Conflict of Interest Plan – To form the Review Team, Argonne will identify, select, and if necessary enter into a contractual relationship with, individuals who have expertise in technical areas relevant to this evaluation. Types of expertise may be related to, but are not limited to, elemental phosphorus chemistry, contaminant fate and transport, excavation of ignitable and reactive materials, and ex situ or in situ treatment of elemental phosphorus or similar waste. Argonne will determine the number and affiliation of the members of the Review Team. Argonne will develop a *Conflict of Interest (COI) Plan* that identifies affiliations or activities that would constitute COI related to participation on the Review Team.

- Review Existing Site Characterization Information – Existing information regarding site-specific conditions, such as contaminant concentrations and locations, will be provided to the Review Team. No additional sampling will be commissioned or undertaken to support this review.
- Extent of Review – The review will be limited to identifying and profiling ETT for elemental phosphorous in soil (the principal threat waste) only. Other contaminants or media will not be evaluated unless it is determined that they impact the efficacy of an ETT.
- Technologies – The review will identify technologies (in situ and ex situ) from existing applied research, bench-scale, pilot and/or operational situations that are relevant to the conditions found at the FMC OU.
- Applicability – For those ETT identified and profiled, the review will evaluate their applicability to the conditions found at FMC throughout the OU or any sub areas of the FMC OU.
- Efficacy and Feasibility– The review will also profile the expected efficacy and feasibility of ETT identified and profiled, particularly in facilitating safe implementation given the site specific conditions at the FMC OU.
- Risks – The review will identify and describe the expected risks associated with implementation of those ETT identified and profiled.
- Costs – The review will provide cost estimates for each ETT identified and profiled. These estimates will include costs necessary to mitigate any risk(s) identified in the previous bullet.

In addition the review will not contain the following:

- Evaluation of remedial technologies against the CERCLA nine criteria
- Recommendations

Products:

- Argonne will provide a *Draft Report* to EPA and the Tribes for review and comment followed by a *Final Report*. The *Report* will contain a detailed description of the methodology used to conduct the review, as well as the components described above.
- Argonne will prepare a *Response to Comments on Draft Report* as a separate product.
- Argonne will prepare and present a PowerPoint presentation to EPA and the Tribes that summarizes the contents of the *Report*. The presentation will occur shortly after deliver of the *Draft Report*.

Status Reports: As part of the monthly IAG reporting, Argonne will provide a brief status update of the effort, such as the general stage of the review, the percentage completed, and any changes in the schedule. This status will be shared with the EPA team members and the Shoshone-Banock Tribes.

Schedule: The review process through the submittal of the draft Report may take up to about five months following the signing of the Work Order by the EPA Project Officer (PO). The EPA and Tribal review of the draft Report will take approximately 2 months. Argonne will deliver the *Final Report* and the *Response to Comments*, approximately 2 months after receiving EPA and Tribal comments and approval by the EPA Project Officer. It is expected that the project will be completed within 10 months from the date of approval of the Work Order by the EPA PO.

Attachment 3
List of Applicable Technical Information
(Draft 3/7/14)

[List of available reference material and Internet links of potential use to Expert Review Team]

1. [Eastern Michaud Flats Contamination Website](#)
2. [Interim Record of Decision Amendment for the Eastern Michaud Flats Superfund Site, FMC Operable Unit \(PDF\)](#) (299 pp, 19MB) - October 2012
3. [Site-Wide Gas Assessment Report for FMC Operable Unit \(PDF\)](#) (196 pp, 24MB) - December 2010
4. [1998 Superfund Record of Decision \(ROD\) ID Number: EPA/541/R-98/034 Text Only \(PDF\)](#) (172 pp, 285K)- June 8, 1998
5. [1998 Superfund Record of Decision \(ROD\) ID Number: EPA/541/R-98/034 with Maps/Tables \(PDF\)](#) (227 pp, 15MB) - June 8, 1998
 - a. [1998 ROD color Figures \(PDF\)](#) (9 pp, 6MB)
6. [FMC Plant OU – Interim CERCLA 2009 Groundwater Monitoring Report \(PDF\)](#) (173 pp, 2MB) - February 2011
7. [Ready for Reuse Determination FMC Plant Operable Unit, SRIA Parcels 4 to 6 \(PDF\)](#) (29 pp, 12MB) - November 2010
8. [FMC Supplemental Feasibility Study \(PDF\)](#) (413 pp, 27MB) - July 2010
9. [FMC Supplemental Feasibility Study Appendices \(PDF\)](#) (1038 pp, 34MB) - July 2010
10. [FMC Supplemental Feasibility Study Revised Work Plan \(PDF\)](#) (271 pp, 8.6MB) - March 2010
11. [FMC Supplemental Remedial Investigation Volume 1: Report \(PDF\)](#) (586 pp, 25MB) - January 2010 (Appendices are available for review at any repository location, or upon request to [Kira Lynch](mailto:lynch.kira@epa.gov) (lynch.kira@epa.gov) / 206-553-2144)
12. [FMC Supplemental Remedial Investigation Addendum Report \(PDF\)](#) (157 pp, 11.7MB) - January 2010 (Appendices are available upon request to [Kira Lynch](mailto:lynch.kira@epa.gov) (lynch.kira@epa.gov) / 206-553-2144)
13. [FMC Groundwater Current Conditions Report \(PDF\)](#) (429 pp, 10.8MB) - June 2009
14. [Tables and Figures \(PDF\)](#) (115 pp, 12.6MB)
15. [Appendices \(PDF\)](#) (890 pp, 24.3MB)
16. [Statement of Work \(PDF\)](#) (20 pp, 159K) - October 9, 2003
17. [Figure 1 Map \(PDF\)](#) (1 page, 96K)
18. [Figure 2 Decision Tree \(PDF\)](#) (1 page, 47K)
19. [Remediation of P4 Contaminated Matrices at FMC, Pocatello, Idaho \(PDF\)](#) (19 pp) US Army Corps of Engineers (Marianne E. Walsh) January 2009
20. [Treatment Technologies for Historical Ponds Containing Elemental Phosphorus - Summary and Evaluation \(PDF\)](#) (98pp) USEPA EPA 542-R-03-013, August 2003
21. [Administrative Record Index \(PDF\)](#) (111 pp, 433K)